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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | <b>Application Number</b>     | 10/007,364       |
|  | <b>Filing Date</b>            | November 5, 2001 |
|  | <b>First Named Inventor</b>   | Aaron V. Kaplan  |
|  | <b>Group Art Unit</b>         | 3731             |
|  | <b>Examiner Name</b>          | Julian W. Woo    |
| <b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>  | <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> | 0313-0003.01     |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)  |  |   |
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| <b>Firm or Individual name</b>             | Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd.<br>Gary W. McFarron, Esq. (Reg. No. 27,357) |
| <b>Signature</b>                           | <i>Gary W. McFarron</i>  |
| <b>Date</b>                                | August 30, 2004  |

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|  |                  | <b>Date</b>      | August 30, 2004         |

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0313-0003.01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: )  
 )  
Aaron V. Kaplan, et al. )  
 )  
Serial No.: 10/007,364 )  
 )  
Filed: November 5, 2001 )  
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Group Art No.: 3731 )  
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Examiner: Julian W. Woo )  
 )  
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR )  
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Name: Kathleen Johnson

Signature: *Kathleen Johnson*



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 0313-0003.01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of:

Aaron V. Kaplan, et al.

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NAME Kathleen Johnson

SIGNATURE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form, which the documents may be material to the examination of this application. Copies of these documents are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of the documents herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the documents

is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of the documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The cited information was first called to Applicant's attention in an Office Action dated August 18, 2004 in related Application Number 10/105,978 filed on March 25, 2002. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a fee under

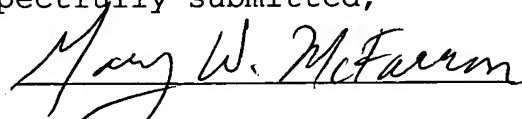
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(A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Date: August 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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Attorneys for Applicant

**Complete if Known**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

***(Use as many sheets as necessary)***

|       |   |    |   |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
|-------|---|----|---|

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
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| Art Unit               | 3731             |
| Examiner Name          | Julian W. Woo    |
| Attorney Docket Number | 0313-0003.01     |

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
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